



Introductions and Conclusions

Student Resource

Strategies for Introductions

- a startling statement, fact, or statistic
- an anecdote
- a quotation related to the topic
- *in medias res* – beginning “in the middle of” the action
- a dialogue
- a vivid scene
- a question or problem
- a personal reflection about the topic
- a description of the topic that does not name it
- a rhetorical question
- a dramatic incident
- a contrast
- an explanation of the thesis
- a brief historical background
- an idea to be refuted

Strategies for Conclusions

- a call for action
- a prediction
- drawing a deduction from the facts
- a question
- a strong contrast
- a quotation that especially illustrates the main point
- dismissal of an opposing idea
- a final illustration
- a return to the idea or structure of the beginning
- a statement of the subject’s overall significance
- a solution to a problem or a recommendation
- a useful analogy or comparison
- a suggestion for specific actions that the reader should take in light of the information the writer has provided
- a speculation about what the thesis implies for the future
- a brief remark that sums up the writer’s feelings